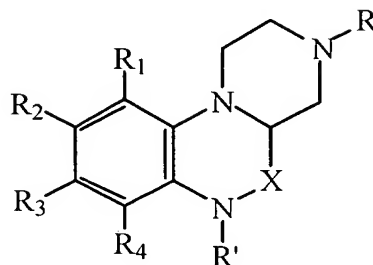


WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A compound of formula I having the structure

**I**

- 5 wherein

R is hydrogen or alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms;

R' is hydrogen, alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, acyl of 2-7 carbon atoms, or aroyl;

R₁, R₂, R₃, and R₄ are each, independently, hydrogen, alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, halogen, trifluoroalkyl, or trifluoroalkoxy of 1-6

- 10 carbon atoms;

X is CR₅R₆ or a carbonyl group;

R₅ and R₆ are each, independently, hydrogen or alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms;

with the proviso that at least two of R₁, R₂, R₃, or R₄ are not hydrogen, and that when X is a carbonyl group, R₂ and R₃ are not both halogen;

- 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein the non-hydrogen substituents of R₁, R₂, R₃, or R₄ are halogen or trifluoromethyl.

- 20 3. The compound of claim 1 wherein

R is hydrogen;

R' is hydrogen;

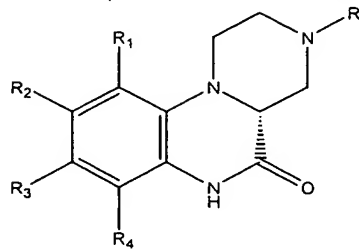
R₁, R₂, R₃, and R₄ are each, independently, hydrogen, halogen, or trifluoroalkyl;

- 25 X is CR₅R₆ or a carbonyl group;

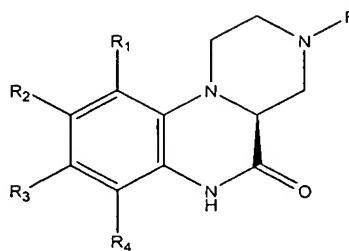
R₅ and R₆ are each hydrogen;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. The compound of claim 1, having the structure



IA



IB

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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5. The compound of claim 4 wherein
 R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , and R_4 are each, independently, hydrogen, halogen, or trifluoroalkyl.

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6. The compound of claim 5 wherein R is hydrogen.

7. The compound of claim 1 wherein
 R is hydrogen;
 R' is hydrogen;

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- R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , and R_4 are each, independently, hydrogen, halogen, or trifluoroalkyl, with the proviso that one of R_1 and R_2 , or R_2 and R_3 , or R_2 and R_4 are independently halogen, or trifluoroalkyl;

X is CR_5R_6 or a carbonyl group;

R_5 and R_6 are each hydrogen;

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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. The compound of claim 7 wherein R_2 and R_3 are independently halogen, or trifluoroalkyl, and R_1 and R_4 are hydrogen.

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9. The compound of claim 7 wherein R_2 and R_4 are independently halogen, or trifluoroalkyl, and R_1 and R_3 are hydrogen.

10. The compound of claim 7 wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently halogen, or trifluoroalkyl, and R_3 and R_4 are hydrogen.

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11. The compound of claim 1, which is
- a) 8,9-dichloro-2,3,4,4a,5,6-hexahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxaline or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
 - 5 b) (R)-8,9-dichloro-2,3,4,4a,5,6-hexahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxaline or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
 - c) (S)-8,9-dichloro-2,3,4,4a,5,6-hexahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxaline or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
 - d) 9-chloro-8-trifluoromethyl-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
 - 10 e) (S)-9-chloro-8-trifluoromethyl-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
 - f) (R)-9-chloro-8-trifluoromethyl-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
 - 15 g) 9,10-dichloro-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]-quinoxalin-5(6H)-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or
 - h) 7,9-dichloro-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
12. The compound of claim 1 which is:
- 20 a) 8,9-dichloro-2,3,4,4a,5,6-hexahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxaline dihydrochloride salt;
 - b) (R)-8,9-dichloro-2,3,4,4a,5,6-hexahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxaline dihydrochloride salt;
 - 25 c) (S)-8,9-dichloro-2,3,4,4a,5,6-hexahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxaline dihydrochloride salt;
 - d) 9-chloro-8-trifluoromethyl-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one hydrochloride salt;
 - e) (S)-9-chloro-8-trifluoromethyl-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one hydrochloride salt;
 - 30 f) (R)-9-chloro-8-trifluoromethyl-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one hydrochloride salt;
 - g) 9,10-dichloro-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]-quinoxalin-5(6H)-one hydrochloride salt; or

- h) 7,9-dichloro-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one hydrochloride salt.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of claim 1,
5 and at least one pharmaceutical carrier.

14. A compound which is (R)-8,9-dichloro-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10 15. The compound of claim 14 which is (R)-8,9-dichloro-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one hydrochloride salt.

16. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of claim 14,
15 and at least one pharmaceutical carrier.

17. A compound which is 8,9-difluoro-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

18. The compound of claim 17 which is 8,9-difluoro-2,3,4,4a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrazino[1,2-a]quinoxalin-5(6H)-one hydrochloride salt.
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19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of claim 17,
and at least one pharmaceutical carrier.

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